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Logo/Photos:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/SomeThingsLooming/FeltSoGoodPress?authuser=0&authkey=Gv1sRgCKz0uJ7ukaXm-gE&feat=directlink>

Reading's some things looming Fiber Arts Gallery Plans Special Opening for "Felt So Good" on September 10

Latest exhibit features work of 30 juried contemporary artists from across the U.S., including from Reading and Berks

Reading, Pa.—The vibrant and thriving some things looming Fiber Arts Gallery, 526 Washington St., Reading, (www.somethingslooming.com) builds on its success with its latest "Felt So Good" exhibit running from Sept. 10 through Nov. 5, 2011. Demonstrating the versatility of felt, the exhibit offers more than 30 examples of the medium, representing the work of 15 artisans from Berks County and across the country.

The show kicks off at the gallery with a special public opening reception on Sat., Sept. 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. featuring Dans Restaurant owners Bill Woolworth and Monir. Visitors can enjoy refreshments and receive wine advice from both. Like some things looming, Dans, open since 1989, is among the many downtown Reading dining and cultural attractions.

Local artist and Muhlenberg High School art teacher, Kachina Martin, whose work is included in "Felt So Good," will be featured at the exhibit's closing reception on Sat., Nov. 5 from 1 to 4 p.m. She is included in the new "500 Felt Objects" book, the latest book in the popular Lark Books "500 Series." She will discuss the art of felt and sign her book.

"Felt So Good" artists are: Jacqueline Arbaugh, Elverson, Pa.; Joanne Strehle Bast, Littlestown, Pa.; Janna Carozza, Reading, Pa.; Michael Dennis, Lancaster, Pa.; Linda Doucette, Pa.; Anne Vickrey Evans, Woodland Park, Colo.; Marhorie Fedyszn, Minneapolis, Minn.; Anna Kristina Goransson, Arlington, Mass.; Vicki Jensen, Fall River, Mass.; Pamela MacGregor, McLure, Ohio; Kachina Martin, Adamstown, Pa.; Tanya Prather, Nashua, N.H.; Mary Schwarzenberger, Milford, N.J.; Caleigh Stednitz, Wyomissing, Pa.; and Mary Stoudt, Reinholds, Pa.

Gallery co-director and founder Rebekah Ritter said she believes the show represents an excellent overview of felt techniques. "The artists have expressed themselves in some surprising and delightful contemporary ways. It is also interesting because this is one of the oldest forms of textile craft in the history of mankind; felting predates spinning, weaving, and knitting."

According to co-director Melanie Mitchell, "Felt is still widely used to create wearable and functional pieces, and also to create art in the form of wall hangings, sculpture, installation pieces, home décor, whatever the imagination can design. 'Felt So Good' artists were challenged to create works created entirely with felt or contained and incorporated felted components.

Mitchell added that felt, a non-woven cloth, is produced by matting and pressing animal fibers until they form together through a process called wet felting. Needle felting is a variation of the wet felting process. It uses a special needle tool instead of wetting the wool, using friction to bind its fibers.

some things looming is open Tues. and Weds. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sats. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and by appointment. It is closed Sun., Mon. and holidays.

The mission of some things looming is to create a thriving, viable community for the fiber arts and artist in Berks County and beyond. some things looming contains a gallery, boutique, studios, community spaces, classrooms, networking resources and a library. Off-street parking is available at the nearby Wyndham Hotel, 5th and Washington streets, and other Reading public parking garages.

Housed in an historical multi-story brick row home, **some things looming** features gallery exhibits, studio and equipment rentals, instruction, workshops and more. Individual and group tours are by appointment.

Visit the website (www.somethingslooming.com), for more details or call 610-373-7337. Visit us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/somethingslooming>. Tweet us @ s_t_ looming on www.twitter.com.

*"The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched;
they must be felt with the heart." Helen Keller*

September Seminars at some things looming

**526 Washington St.
Reading, PA 19601**

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Teacher: Elizabeth Zipay

Class Name: Tatting - Introduction

Class Description: Basic tatting techniques including the knot, rings, and chains. Students who learn the technique should be able to complete a four ring butterfly. A shuttle and enough thread for practice and to complete the butterfly will be provided. If desired, students can purchase a kit (at additional charge) that will enable them to make a pair of butterfly earrings.

Date: 9/10/2011 **Time:** 10:00:00 AM **Class Length:** 2 hours

Cost: \$40 - Register and pay in advance and receive a \$10.00 discount.

Material cost: 10 (plus applicable sales tax)

Materials Supplied: Basic kit including shuttle, thread clippers, basic instructions, butterfly pattern and thread: \$10.00

Age Restrictions: Not recommended for under age 16

Teacher: Rebekah Ritter

Class Name: Crochet Embellishment

Class Description: Ready for a little challenge. Let's try crochet with wire. We'll take a crochet embellishment normally created in yarn and crochet it in wire. Students should have a basic understanding of single crochet and may learn the half double crochet and double crochet. Students will begin the project in class and finish it on their own.

Date: 9/17/2011 **Time:** 10:00:00 AM **Class Length:** 2 hours

Cost: \$40 - Register and pay in advance and receive a \$10.00 discount.

Material cost: 15 (plus applicable sales tax)

Materials Supplied: crochet hook, 26 ga wire, pin backing

Age Restrictions: Not recommended for under 16 years of age.

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Teacher: Debra Hammond

Class Name: SMALL BASKET TOTE: (splint basket weaving)

Class Description: This class will teach the basics of splint basket making. We will create a tote shaped basket using pre cut rattan and then insert shaker tape straps.

Date: 9/24/2011 **Time:** 10:00:00 AM **Class Length:** 3 hours

Cost: \$ 55 - Register and pay in advance and receive a \$10.00 discount.

Material cost: 20 (plus applicable sales tax)

Materials Supplied: rattan, seagrass, shaker tape, pencil, needle, and thread

Age Restrictions: Not recommended for children under 13

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Teacher: Melanie Ritter-Mitchell

Class Name: Drop Spindle Basics

Class Description: How does wool become yarn? In this Sampler, experience a tradition that has been around for thousands of years. Students will get the basics of drop spindle spinning. We'll use an easy technique where students will spin the spindle building up twist and then "park" (or stop) the spindle before drafting the wool out into yarn. Each student will receive a kit containing a drop spindle and 2 oz of wool roving. Those who have a drop spindle already are encouraged to bring it along, if so desired. Yarn will be started during sampler instruction time, but completed at home.

Date: 10/1/2011 **Time:** 10:00:00 AM **Class Length:** 2 hours

Cost: \$40 - Register and pay in advance and receive a \$10.00 discount.

Material cost: 20 (plus applicable sales tax)

Materials Supplied: Each student will receive a kit containing a drop spindle and 2 oz of wool roving. Those who have a drop spindle already are encouraged to bring it along, if so desired.

Age Restrictions: Not recommended for children under 10; under 16 must be accompanied by a helping adult.